

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 00755 071842Z

63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 NIC-01 OMB-01 /076 W

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R 071800Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1675

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: SOARES AND CUNHAL COMMENT ON ELECTIONS

1. IN COURSE OF GREETING UK FORMIN CALLAGHAN AT LISBON AIRPORT
FEB. 6, FORMIN AND SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER MARIO SOARES SAID
PORTUGAL IS SEARCHING FOR BEST WAY OF CONSTRUCTING PLURALISTIC
DEMOCRACY IN WHICH EVERYONE ENJOYS FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND
RIGHT TO LIVE IN DIGNITY. SOARES STATED UPCOMING ELECTIONS
WILL GIVE PORTUGUESE A CHANCE TO CLEARLY DEMONSTRATE
CIVIC AND POLITICAL CAPACITY DENIED THEM IN PAST BY
DICTATORIAL REGIME. SOARES SAID OPENING UP OF DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS INDEPENDENT OF IDEOLOGIES, POLITICAL REGIMES, OR
STRATEGIC BLOCS IS WITHIN PORTUGAL'S RENEWED SPIRIT AND GOP
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REMAINS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO AND WILL NOT RENEGE ON TREATY

ALLIANCES.

2. SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTY ALVARO CUNHAL CHARGED IN AN INTERVIEW WITH "HUMANITE" (REPUBLISHED LISBON FEB. 7 PRESS) THAT SOCIALISTS ARE DRIFTING TO RIGHT AND WANT TO CREATE WESTERN EUROPEAN TYPE DEMOCRACY DOMINATED BY MONOPOLY CAPITAL. CUNHAL SAID PCP IS NOT AFRAID OF ELECTIONS. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, REGIONS WHERE DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES DON'T EXIST AND WHERE THE PCP HAS BEEN PREVENTED FROM JOINING ELECTORAL COMMISSIONS. THE APRIL ELECTIONS COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED FREE UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES.

3. COMMENT: LISBON PRESS HEADLINED CUNHAL INTERVIEW WITH LEAD THAT PCP WANTS ELECTIONS AND IS NOT AFRAID OF ELECTION RESULTS; CUNHAL QUALIFICATION APPEARS IN FINE PRINT.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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